UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

)
JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE)
COMPANY, JOHN HANCOCK)
VARIABLE LIFE INSURANCE)
COMPANY, and MANULIFE INSURANCE)
COMPANY (f/k/a INVESTORS)
PARTNER LIFE INSURANCE)
COMPANY),) CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-11150-DPW
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
V.)
)
ABBOTT LABORATORIES,)
)
Defendant.)

JOHN HANCOCK'S RESPONSE TO ABBOTT'S OBJECTIONS TO THE AFFIDAVIT OF BARRY I. GOLD

Plaintiffs John Hancock Life Insurance Company, John Hancock Variable Life Insurance Company and Manulife Insurance Company (collectively, "John Hancock" or "Hancock") hereby respond to Abbott Laboratories' ("Abbott") objections to the Affidavit of Barry I. Gold (the "Gold Affidavit").

Abbott raises four baseless objections to Dr. Gold's direct testimony. First, it claims Dr. Gold is offering opinions not disclosed in his expert reports. Not so. Dr. Gold's reports provided Abbott with adequate notice of his trial testimony. In any event, Abbott deposed Dr. Gold in June 2007 and discovered the very opinions that it now claims were never disclosed. Second, Abbott claims that Dr. Gold is improperly expressing opinions regarding Abbott's

state of mind. He is not. Dr. Gold is simply stating, based on his experience, what a reasonable management-level employee at a major pharmaceutical company knew or should have known based on the facts available to Abbott. Third, Abbott claims that Dr. Gold does not have the qualifications to discuss statistical issues related to clinical trials. Dr. Gold has years of experience on that subject. Fourth, Abbott claims Dr. Gold is offering improper lay opinions. On the contrary, he is simply identifying evidence in Abbott's own documents that support his opinions. Abbott's objections to his affidavit should be overruled.

Discussion

I. BECAUSE ABBOTT HAD FULL NOTICE OF THE OPINIONS CONTAINED IN DR. GOLD'S TRIAL AFFIDAVIT, THOSE OPINIONS ARE TIMELY UNDER THE RULES.

Rule 26(a)(2)(B) requires that an expert report contain "a complete statement of all opinions the witness will express and the basis and reasons for them." Where a party has not complied with Rule 26(a)(2)(B), the testimony should be admitted if the non-disclosure was justified or harmless. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c)(1). Significantly, Rules 26(a)(2)(B) and 37(c)(1) "are not designed to prohibit a witness from testifying about anything not explicitly mentioned in [the expert's] Rule 26 disclosure, but rather to protect one party from being blindsided by another party with new opinions never before discussed." Cary Oil Co., Inc. v. MG Refining & Marketing, Inc., 2003 WL 1878246 at *4 (S.D.N.Y. April 11, 2003); see also Muldrow ex rel. Estate of Muldrow v. Re-Direct, Inc., 493 F.3d 160, 167 (D.C. Cir. 2007).

Indeed, Rule 26(a)(2)(B) "does not limit an expert's testimony simply to reading his report ... The rule contemplates that the expert will supplement, elaborate upon, [and] explain ... his report in his [trial] testimony." *Muldrow*, 493 F.3d at 167. Moreover, issues explored at an expert's deposition put a party on notice that those issues are among the opinions that the

expert might testify to at trial. *See, e.g., Smith v. Tenet Healthsystem SL, Inc.*, 436 F.3d 879 (8th Cir. 2006) (while expert witness did not include reliance on x-rays in his pretrial disclosure, discussion of x-rays during deposition put plaintiff on notice and rendered Rule 26 violation harmless); *Baldauf v. Davidson*, 2007 WL 2155967 at *8 (S.D. Ind. July 24, 2007).

A. <u>Dr. Gold's Expert Reports Placed Abbott On Notice Regarding The Opinions Set Forth In His Affidavit.</u>

Abbott claims that statements in Dr. Gold's trial affidavit (*i.e.*, \P ¶19-22, 26, 35-38, 51, 71-72, 76-80, 82, 84, and 87-89) are "new opinions that were not disclosed" in his initial and updated expert reports. Abbott is attempting to do just what the case law forbids: requiring that an expert report conform precisely with the expert's trial testimony. Dr. Gold's report indisputably put Abbott on notice of all the opinions expressed in his trial testimony.

For example, Abbott complains that Dr. Gold states new opinions regarding how spending reflects a pharmaceutical company's confidence in the commercial prospects of a compound. (Abbott's Motion at 1). However, Dr. Gold provided that very opinion to Abbott in his report: "[Pharmaceutical companies] manage their portfolios [by] deleting or discontinuing compounds when their risk of failure significantly rises, [and] accelerating investment in compounds when their probability of success increases " (Updated Report at 10, attached to Abbott's Motion as Ex. B).

Abbott purports to be blindsided by Dr. Gold's trial testimony that subjects in the M99-114 trial experienced substantial adverse events that caused Abbott management to conclude that ABT-594 would likely be terminated. (Abbott's Motion at 1). Dr. Gold expressed that very opinion in his report as well: "Dr. Gold is expected to discuss the nature and identification of adverse events and premature terminations . . . and what role and significance

they typically have in the development decision-making process." (Updated Report at 10, attached to Abbott's Motion as Ex. B). He also noted that a "high number of adverse events during a clinical trial can be a signal that the results are likely to be negative, especially if the protocol specifies an intent-to-treat analysis, and can have a devastating effect on the long term commercial prospects for compound being studied." (*Id.* at 13-14).

Abbott remarkably claims surprise by Dr. Gold's testimony regarding Abbott's termination of all development activities for ABT-518 — notwithstanding that Abbott's conduct regarding that compound has been squarely at issue for years. In his report, Dr. Gold stated that he would discuss "significant development issues" including "a permanent or temporary hold on a clinical trial...." (*Id.* at 11.) Abbott's other purported "new opinions" are likewise identified in Dr. Gold's expert report. (*See e.g.*, Updated Report at 3 and 16 (discussing target profiles and ABT-773's divergence from its profile), 3 (discussing replacement and back-up compounds), 5 (discussing FDA's pediatric rule); and 14-15 (discussing issues relating to the enrollment process).

Moreover, Dr. Gold indisputably put Abbott on notice that he would further elaborate on and support the opinions in his report based on documents or deposition testimony that he would review prior to trial. (*Id.* at 2). That is exactly what he did. Dr. Gold's purported "new opinions" are not really opinions at all. In many cases, Dr. Gold is simply identifying Abbott's *own* documents that support his previously expressed opinions. (*See, e.g.,* Gold Aff. ¶ 19-20 (identifying Abbott documents supporting opinion that spending is a barometer of a company's commercial outlook for a compound under development); ¶ 36 (identifying Abbott documents relating to development of replacement compound for ABT-594); ¶¶ 71-72 (identifying Abbott documents that reflect its difficulties enrolling patients in the M99-114

Abbott documents reflecting high incidence of nausea, vomiting and dizziness and concern by Abbott employees that adverse events are drug-related); and ¶ 84 (identifying Abbott documents demonstrating shut down of all development activities for ABT-518)).

Thus, Abbott's contention that Dr. Gold's trial affidavit provided new opinions is without merit.

B. Abbott Also Learned About The Opinions In Question During Its Deposition Of Dr. Gold.

Nowhere in its Motion does Abbott inform the Court that it *discovered and explored each of the purported new opinions* at Dr. Gold's deposition on June 1, 2007. Thus, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c), none of Dr. Gold's opinions should be precluded because Abbott had ample notice of them. As noted above, under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c), a "harmless" violation of Rule 26 does not mandate exclusion of the evidence. *Muldrow ex rel. Estate of Muldrow*, 493, F.3d at 167.

Abbott deposed Dr. Gold on virtually all of his "new opinions." Dr. Gold testified regarding Abbott's termination of ABT-518. (*See, e.g.,* Gold Trans. at 55, 64-66, and 68, attached hereto at Ex. 1). He testified regarding Abbott's knowledge of adverse events during M99-114 trial and the significance of those events for the prospects of ABT-594. (*Id.* at 55, 78-83, and 93). He testified regarding Abbott's failure to disclosure dosing and safety issues regarding ABT-773 (id. at 68-70 and 138-40). Finally, Abbott's counsel asked Dr. Gold to give his "opinions [whether] Big Pharma companies only begin to develop backup or replacement compounds when a compound is about to be terminated[.]" (*Id.* at 147). Thus, Abbott's claim of unfair surprise regarding Dr. Gold's trial affidavit should not be credited.

II. DR. GOLD'S OPINIONS REGARDING THE FACTS OF THIS CASE ARE ADMISSIBLE UNDER FED. R. EVID. 702.

A. Dr. Gold Is Not Testifying To Abbott's State of Mind

Abbott wrongly contends that Dr. Gold is testifying to Abbott's state of mind. (Abbott's Motion, at 5-7). Expert testimony is admissible where: (1) the testimony is based upon sufficient facts or data; (2) the testimony is the product of reliable principles and methods; and (3) the witness has applied the principles and methods reliably to the facts of the case. Fed. R. Evid. 702. Dr. Gold has been offered as an expert in the field of research and development of pharmaceutical compounds by large pharmaceutical companies such as Abbott.

Abbott's objections to the so-called "state of mind" opinions should be overruled. First, Dr. Gold is testifying to the conclusions that a reasonable management-level pharmaceutical executive should have drawn regarding the development prospects of the compounds at issue based on facts in Abbott's possession. The First Circuit has allowed the admissibility of such testimony in a factual setting remarkably similar to this one — the significance of clinical trial results for drug compounds. *See, Maruho Company, Ltd. v. Miles, Inc.*, 13 F.3d 6, 10 (1st Cir. 1993) (Breyer, J). (stating that plaintiff may have reached a favorable result had he presented expert testimony on what a reasonable pharmaceutical executive would have thought of an important negative drug study showing adverse events for a sublicensed compound).

Second, Abbott's claim that Dr. Gold is testifying about the FDA's "state of mind" is no more warranted. Dr. Gold has testified that "FDA representatives expressed concern regarding the safety profile" of ABT-773 based on Abbott documents discussing "FDA concerns regarding 'Liver Toxicity Issues.'" (Gold Aff., ¶ 51). This opinion is the product of

reliable principles and constitutes permissible expert testimony. *See In re Prempro Products Liability Litigation*, 2006 WL 5217764 at *6 fn. 59 (E.D. Ark. Sept 13, 2006) ("What FDA officials would have done with certain...information such as ...adverse event reports" is admissible if presented by a qualified expert).

B. Dr. Gold Is Qualified To Testify Regarding The Role Statisticians Play In The Development of Clinical Trials.

Abbott objects to paragraphs 59 and 60 of Dr. Gold's affidavit on the ground that he has no expertise in statistics. Abbott is incorrect. A district court "has broad discretionary powers in determining whether or not the proposed expert is qualified." *Bogosian v. Mercedes-Benz of North America, Inc.*, 104 F.3d 472, 476 (1st Cir. 2007). Dr. Gold's states at paragraph 59 and 60 that "[o]ne or more statisticians usually are involved in the development of [a written] protocol." He explains the role that statisticians play in developing these protocols, what the power of a study means to statisticians, and that "pharmaceutical companies frequently will require that a trial 'reach 80% power' in order to be considered statistically valid." With significant experience in "manag[ing] clinical trials," Dr. Gold is certainly qualified to testify regarding the role statisticians play in the types of trials he has expertise in managing. As an expert in the field of research and development of pharmaceutical compounds by large pharmaceutical companies such as Abbott, he may also opine on the "power" pharmaceutical companies typically require. Such testimony lies wholly within Dr. Gold's area of expertise and should not be precluded.

C. Dr. Gold Should Be Allowed To Give His Opinions Based On His Review of Documents Produced By Abbott In This Case.

Abbott's last set of objections relates to its contention that certain paragraphs are "nothing more than improper advocacy for Hancock's version of the facts." Yet, these

paragraphs simply reflect an effort by Dr. Gold to incorporate examples of activities and events in this case into his discussion of research and development activities in general. This effort should come as no surprise to Abbott; at his deposition, Dr. Gold testified as follows: "I am trying so far as possible when I try to make a point about drug development to find a relevant Abbott document ... that supports the point I'm trying to make." Ex. 1 at 55. John Hancock respectfully submits such opinions will "assist" the Court, as contemplated by Fed. R. 702, and thus, should be admitted at trial.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, John Hancock respectfully requests that the Court overrule Abbott's objections to the Gold Affidavit.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, JOHN HANCOCK VARIABLE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY and MANULIFE INSURANCE COMPANY By their attorneys,

/s/ Brian A. Davis

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Date: March 2, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document filed through the ECF system will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF), and that paper copies will be sent to those non-registered participants (if any) on March 2, 2008.

/s/ Richard C. Abati
Richard C. Abati

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EXHIBIT 1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Civil Action No. 05-11150-DPW

JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE

COMPANY, JOHN HANCOCK VARIABLE

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, and

MANULIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (f/k/a

INVESTORS PARTNER INSURANCE

COMPANY),

Plaintiffs,

v

ABBOTT LABORATORIES,

Defendant.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF BARRY I.

GOLD, PhD, a witness called on behalf of the Defendant, taken pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Maureen O'Connor Pollard, RPR, CLR, and Notary Public within and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the offices of Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar, LLP, One Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, on the 1st of June, 2007, commencing at 9:11 o'clock a.m.

Filed 03/02/2008

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On the third paragraph on Page 3 towards the bottom, it's four lines from the bottom, it says you "will discuss the importance of product differentiation in the marketplace, and its role in developing target product profiles."

Can you briefly discuss the importance of product differentiation in the marketplace?

A. Product differentiation is vital for pharmaceutical companies, unless they're first to market in an area. And if they are first to market with a new technology, Pfizer's Viagra for example, there's no reason to differentiate 16 beyond the fact that they've launched a product with a novel mechanism of action.

But for any company that is prepared 20 to enter the same marketplace with the same mechanism of action with a competing drug, differentiation in the marketplace takes a 23 variety of forms.

For example, it involves if the first

in novel ways.

And then, of course, there's the generic industry that competes on price alone.

Q. Is that the entirety of your opinion regarding the importance of product differentiation in the marketplace?

A. No. I thought your question dealt with how do companies differentiate.

9 Q. Okay. Do you have an opinion on the importance of product differentiation in the 10 11 marketplace?

A. I think I used the word vital. If I didn't use it, I will use it now. Product 13 differentiation I said was not important for an innovator, but was important for any follow-on 16 company.

Q. Are you intending to opine on the importance of product differentiation with regard to ABT-518?

A. Not in terms of its ultimate launch, but perhaps in terms of its development.

Q. What would you opine on regarding the 23 product differentiation of ABT-518?

Do you recall the difference between

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drug to market is dose twice a day, a new innovator will try to come up with a drug that is dosed once a day. If we remember Captopril, which was a drug for blood pressure launched by 4 Bristol-Meyers Squibb many years ago, novel 5 mechanism of action, but it wasn't once a day. 7 Enalopril was able to come along from a 8 competitor and steal the market from Captopril 9 because Enalopril was dosed once a day.

So dose frequency is a way to differentiate in the marketplace.

Another way is dose administration. For example, if a drug is available by an oral capsule, it may be, it may be to a company's advantage to develop a patch that delivers the same molecule or delivers a different molecule as a competitor.

It may -- if a drug is dosed, because 19 of a short mechanism of action, if a drug has to 20 be dosed three times a day, it may be to a 21 competitor's advantage to develop a long acting 22 controlled release formulation. So drug

companies differentiate by reformulating medications or formulating their own medications | 24 reaching the marketplace," what is the basis of 24

the three drugs, 518 --

2 A. 518 was ---

3 MR. ZWICKER: Well, objection. 4 You want him to answer the last? 5 BY MS. GUZELSU:

Q. Let's start with the last question. Do you recall the difference between the three drugs? Do you remember which 518 is, which 594 is, and which 773 is?

A. Yes.

MR. ZWICKER: Objection. 11

You can answer.

13 BY MS. GUZELSU:

14 Q. Okay. All right. So now going back 15 to my earlier question.

Do you expect to opine on product differentiation with regard to ABT-518?

A. Not product differentiation in the 18 marketplace as I've mentioned it here. 518 had 20 no hope of ever reaching the marketplace, so why

would I talk about differentiation in the 21

22 marketplace? 23

Q. And when you say "518 had no hope of

A. I can't provide dates offhand.

MR. ZWICKER: Objection.

O. Was it the beginning of 2001, after

A. I can't provide dates without looking

BY MS. GUZELSU:

the deal was signed later in 2001?

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at them.

the conference.

A. I do not.

conference?

A. No, I've not seen the abstracts from

Q. So you don't know what information was

revealed regarding competitor MMPIs at the ASCO

So your entire knowledge regarding the

19

22 is based solely on the documents you reviewed

regarding the stopping of the clinical trial,

the restart of the clinical trial, and its

and ultimately terminated in May.

Q. Is that the sole basis for your

24 opinion that it was destined to be killed by the

BY MS. GUZELSU:

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clinical reports.

Q. Do you remember specifically which 17 clinical reports? 18

A. Specifically, no.

Q. Were they formal clinical reports? 20

Are you talking about internal correspondence

22 between Abbott employees?

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23 MR. ZWICKER: Objection. Vague,

24 compound.

19

BY MS. GUZELSU:

Q. So is it possible that enrollment was 17 halted for reasons other than the side effects 18 and dropouts in this case? 19

MR. ZWICKER: Objection to what's 20 possible. 21

A. Would you repeat the question? BY MS. GUZELSU:

Q. Was there any indication in the Abbott

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Then the actual protocol is written. After the

After the protocol is written and

reviewed by prospective investigators as well as

When all that is done and everyone is

approved by management, it's passed by or

institutional review boards, IRBs.

protocol is the experimental design set to

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for ABT-773?

24 Phase III clinical trials?

O. Are you planning on offering any

A. I haven't completed my preparation of

O. Okay. So as of date, this is the sum

opinions at trial regarding Phase III studies

my overheads as yet, so I don't know.

23 total of opinions you're planning on offering on

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paper.

3 4 5 7 10 11 estimating very closely how many patients must 12 be enrolled in order to detect a statistically 13 significant difference between placebo and the 14 test drug, or between different doses of the 15 test drug." Do you see that? 16 17 A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me what a statistically 18 significant difference is?

MR. ZWICKER: Objection. 20 21

BY MS. GUZELSU:

Q. As referred to in your report.

22 A. A statistician's definition of a 23

statistically significant difference is a

researchers who assess the power of their 14 studies use a .80 standard - I'm sorry, use .80 15 as a standard for adequacy. 16

Does that mean that there are some 17 researchers who don't use .80 as a standard for 18 adequacy? 19

20 A. No, some of them don't calculate 21

O. Some of them don't calculate power, 22

but the rest of them all use .80? 23

A. Yes.

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138 you've read regarding 773? 1 A. Well, if I haven't seen it, I can't 2 A. I can't recall. have any opinion about it. Q. Is there a date on the document that 3 3 BY MS. GUZELSU: you relied on? 4 Q. Okay. 4 5 A. There's no date on this document. 5 A. I'm just going to stand on what I've-6 Q. Do you have any sense of when ABT-773 said. 773 looked like a problem compound before 7 diverged from its target profile in those 7 the deal, and its picture really never changed manners that you describe in your report? after the deal. 8 A. In my reviewing the totality of 773 9 Q. What do you mean by "problem 9 documentation, there was discussion about 773's 10 compound"? 10 profile, especially in community acquired A. They didn't know if they had once a 11 11 pneumonia, I think as early as fourth quarter 12 day dosing, they didn't know if the drug had a 12 clean cardiovascular or liver safety profile, 13 Q. When you say "profile" in terms of and they didn't know if they could make a claim 14 community acquired pneumonia, what do you mean against macrolide resistant bacteria, or 15 something like that. 16 16 17 Q. They didn't know is what you're 17 A. I'm just thinking about all the stating? They didn't know one way or the other? documents I saw, and I don't think there was 18 18 anything remarkable in the last half of the 19 A. Yes, they had no data to support any of those contentions, or they had insufficient documents I looked at that was different from 20 20 data to support the contention that they had the first half of the documents I looked at. 21 And since they were chronological, I don't think once a day dosing and the other two. 22 22 the story of 773 changed significantly. 23 Q. During the development of any drug 23 that has as its target profile once a day I think early on looking at it there 24 24 139 dosing, isn't there a point at which they don't was uncertainty around its dose frequency, there 1 1 2 was uncertainty around the FDA's sensitivity MR. ZWICKER: Objection. 3 3 toward the OT prolongation and liver function, A. Before the start of clinical trials and there was sensitivity about trying to make a 4 5 claim against resistant bacteria. I don't think there was any -- I think б 7 Phase I studies. 7 there was enough uncertainty about it throughout 8

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the documentation that that was a problem going into the deal.

- Q. A problem going into the deal, so prior to March 13, 2001? 11
 - A. I think so.
- Q. Did you review any documents regarding 13 the Ketek advisory that came out in April of 14 15 2001?
- 16 A. I can't recall.
- Q. You don't remember any documents 17 regarding another drug that a company called 18 Aventis was developing called Ketek? 19
- A. I don't recall it specifically. 20
- 21 O. So you would have no opinion regarding 22 the effect that advisory had on the development 23 of 773?

MR. ZWICKER: Objection.

know whether it's going to be once a day?

they won't know. But that's a question generally that is nailed down in the very early

BY MS. GUZELSU:

- Q. Generally nailed down in early Phase I studies?
- A. Because once a day dosing, if that's required to differentiate from a competitor, that's a knockout factor for that compound.
- 13 Q. Is it possible that once a day dosing 15 could be established for certain indications and not other indications? 16

MR. ZWICKER: Objection for what's 17 18

A. It's possible, but it may not be 19 20 plausible, because the pharmacokinetics of the drug won't change. 21 22

BY MS. GUZELSU:

23 Q. But for perhaps a more serious 24 indication you might be able to have -- you

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BY MS. GUZELSU:

O. What if one of those indications was sort of the lion's share of what was expected to be the marketing?

MR. ZWICKER: Objection. Vague.

11 Go ahead.

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A. If it meets its sales target, if the target market size is sufficient, it will go to market. If not, if it's a successful development but the market size is too small, a large drug company will sell it off.

BY MS. GUZELSU:

O. Can we turn to Page 16 of your report, 18 which is Exhibit 1, please? 19

The first sentence of that main 20 paragraph there says "Dr. Gold further is 21 expected to testify that when a compound is or 22 is about to be terminated for any reason during 23

clinical development, many Big Pharma companies

hundreds of millions of dollars.

So if companies have a backup molecule, they'll frequently take it in development to the point where it is prepared to go into the clinic, but they'll keep it back from putting it in clinical development. They may even file an IND but not initiate any trials just to be able to initiate that trial should the primary molecule fail.

Some very wealthy companies will take both molecules as far as Phase I, and then hold one molecule in Phase I and advance the other one. So technically yes, they'll have two molecules in development, but one is on hold.

Q. So in your opinion, molecules that 15 have the same mechanism of action will not be 16 co-developed simultaneously by any 17 pharmaceutical company? 18

MR. ZWICKER: Objection.

A. Yes, that is my opinion. Most companies will -- are so resource conscious that they will not develop two molecules with the same mechanism at the same time.

BY MS. GUZELSU:

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begin to develop a 'backup' or 'replacement' 1 compound." 2

Is it your opinion that Big Pharma companies only begin to develop backup or replacement compounds when a compound is about to be terminated?

A. I think naturally that depends on what company it is. It's very much a decision. And most companies are loathe to bring two molecules into clinical development at the same time against the same indication, they don't like to compete against themselves. But more to the point, it just eats up resources.

Q. So most companies will not --

A. I haven't finished.

Q. I'm sorry. Please continue.

16 A. I know there's some sensitivity around 17 my claim here that Big Pharma companies begin to develop a backup only if something is failing, and I think the key word here is develop. 20

When I talk about develop in this 21 document, I'm talking about clinical 22

development, and clinical development I've

already said is extremely expensive, measured in

Q. What if they're for different 1 2 indications? 3

A. I think that's splitting hairs. I think if one molecule is going to be developed for one primary indication and another molecule for another primary indication, and they have the same mechanism of action but they don't cross over, sure, there's a possibility they'd both be developed.

But if molecules have the same mechanism of action they're going to be active 11 against the same diseases, and instead of 12 developing two molecules against two diseases 13 it's to their best interest to develop one 14 molecule against both diseases. 15

Q. In your experience, the companies that you've worked in, have you ever seen two compounds being developed simultaneously that have the same mechanism of action?

19 A. Only historically. Merck once upon a 20 time developed two diuretics, one called 21 thiazide and one called hydrochlorothiazide, and 22

they differ solely on the basis of potency, one 23

is ten times more potent than the other, but

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